CLAIMS

1. A network recording system including a plurality of terminals
and a recording server connected via a network,

5   each terminal comprising:

a transmitting unit operable to transmit to the recording
server a record instruction to record a broadcast program and a
send instruction to send a recorded broadcast program, each
instruction being transmitted together with a requester ID, and

10   the recording server comprising:

an ID management unit operable to manage specific requester
IDs as belonging to a group;

a recording unit operable to record a broadcast program in
response to a record instruction transmitted from a terminal;

15   a recorded-data management unit operable to manage a recorded
broadcast program, in association with a requester ID that is
transmitted with a record instruction instructed to record the
broadcast program; and

a shared-data management unit operable to send, in response
20   to a send instruction, a recorded broadcast program to a terminal
that transmitted the send instruction, when (i) a requester ID
transmitted with the send instruction is managed by the ID
management unit as belonging to a group and (ii) the recorded
broadcast program to be sent is associated by the recorded-data
25   management unit with a requester ID belonging to the group.

2. The network recording system according to Claim 1, wherein
the   shared-data   management   unit   generates,   on   a

group-by-group basis, a shared-data list showing recorded
broadcast programs that are associated with requester IDs belonging
to a respective group out of all recorded broadcast programs managed
by the recorded-data management unit, and transmits the shared-data
5   list to each terminal, and

        each terminal further comprises a generating unit operable
to generate a send instruction based on the shared-data list.

3. The network recording system according to Claim 2, wherein
10   each terminal further comprises:

        a presentation unit operable to present the shared-data list
to a user; and

        a receiving unit operable to receive, from the user, a
specification of a recorded broadcast programs selected from the
15   shared-data list, and

        the generating unit generates a send instruction to send the
recorded broadcast program that is selected by the user.

4. The network recording system according to Claim 3, wherein
20   the receiving unit receives designation of a group from a
user,

        the transmitting unit transmits, together with a requester
ID, group information showing the designated group to the recording
server, and

25   the ID management unit manages group information transmitted
from a terminal, in association with a requester ID that is
transmitted with the group information.

5. The network recording system according to Claim 3, wherein
the receiving unit receives, from a user, a record request requesting to record a broadcast program, and also receives notification setting as to whether to issue a notification about

5   the record request to other users belonging to a same group to which the user belongs,

the generating unit generates a record instruction based on the received record request,

the transmitting unit transmits, in addition to the generated

10 record instruction, the notification setting together with a requester ID to the recording server, and

the shared-data management unit issues, in accordance with notification setting transmitted with a record instruction from a terminal, a notification about the record instruction to each

15 terminal that transmitted a requester ID belonging to a same group to which the requester ID transmitted with the notification setting belongs.

6. The network recording system according to Claim 3, wherein

20   the receiving unit receives, from a user, a delete request requesting to delete a recorded broadcast program,

the generating unit generates a delete instruction based on the received delete request,

the transmitting unit transmits the generated delete

25 instruction together with a requester ID to the recording server, and

the shared-data management unit deletes, in response to a delete instruction transmitted from a terminal, a recorded

broadcast program from the recording server, when the recorded broadcast program to be deleted is associated with a requester ID belonging to a same group to which a requester ID transmitted with the delete instruction belongs.

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7. The network recording system according to Claim 2, wherein the shared-data management unit deletes from the recording server a recorded broadcast program that is listed in the shared-data list, when the recorded broadcast program is sent to
10   all users or terminals identified by the requester IDs belonging to the group.

8. The network recording system according to Claim 2, wherein each time the recorded-data management unit newly associates
15   a requester ID and a recorded broadcast program, the shared-data management unit updates the shared-data list and transmits a new shared-data list to each terminal.

9. A recording server comprising:
20   a receiving unit operable to receive, from an external device, a record instruction to record a broadcast program and a send instruction to send a recorded broadcast program, each instruction being attached with a requester ID;
     an ID management unit operable to manage specific requester
25   IDs as belonging to a group;
     a recording unit operable to record a broadcast program in response to a record instruction received by the receiving unit;
     a recorded-data management unit operable to manage a recorded

broadcast program, in association with a requester ID that is received with a record instruction instructed to record the broadcast program; and

5   a shared-data management unit operable to send, in response to a send instruction, a recorded broadcast program to an external device from which the send instruction is received, when (i) a requester ID received with the send instruction is managed by the ID management unit as belonging to a group and (ii) the recorded broadcast program to be sent is associated by the recorded-data

10   management unit with a requester ID belonging to the group.

10. A recorded data sending method for use by a recording server having: a receiving unit operable to receive a record instruction to record a broadcast program and a send instruction to send a

15   recorded broadcast program each transmitted from an external source together with a requester ID; and a recording unit operable to record a broadcast program in response to a received record instruction, the recorded data sending method comprising steps of:

20   managing specific requester IDs as belonging to a group;
            managing a broadcast program that is recorded in response to a record instruction received by the receiving unit, in association with a requester ID received with the record instruction; and

25   sending, in response to a send instruction received from an eternal device, a recorded broadcast program to the external device from which the send instruction is received, when (i) a requester ID received with the send instruction is managed in the requester

ID managing step as belonging to a group and (ii) the recorded broadcast program to be sent is associated in the broadcast program managing step with a requester ID belonging to the group.

5   11. A program for use by a computer that performs a recorded data sending process, the computer acting as a recording server having: a receiving unit operable to receive a record instruction to record a broadcast program and a send instruction to send a recorded broadcast program each transmitted from an external source together

10   with a requester ID; and a recording unit operable to record a broadcast program in response to a received record instruction, the recorded data sending process comprising steps of:

managing specific requester IDs as belonging to a group;

managing a broadcast program recorded in response to a record

15   instruction received by the receiving unit, in association with a requester ID received with the record instruction; and

sending, in response to a send instruction received from an eternal device, a recorded broadcast program to the external device from which the send instruction is received, when (i) a requester

20   ID received with the send instruction is managed in the requester ID managing step as belonging to a group and (ii) the recorded broadcast program to be sent is associated in the broadcast program managing step with a requester ID belonging to the group.

25   12. A recording medium storing a program for use by a computer that performs a recorded data sending process, the computer acting as a recording server having: a receiving unit operable to receive a record instruction to record a broadcast program and a send

instruction to send a recorded broadcast program each transmitted from an external source together with a requester ID; and a recording unit operable to record a broadcast program in response to a received record instruction, the recorded data sending process comprising

5   steps of:

        managing specific requester IDs as belonging to a group;

        managing a broadcast program recorded in response to a record instruction received by the receiving unit, in association with a requester ID received with the record instruction; and

10   sending, in response to a send instruction received from an eternal device, a recorded broadcast program to the external device from which the send instruction is received, when (i) a requester ID received with the send instruction is managed in the requester ID managing step as belonging to a group and (ii) the recorded

15   broadcast program to be sent is associated in the broadcast program managing step with a requester ID belonging to the group.

        13. An integrated circuit for use in a recording server that has: a receiving unit operable to receive a record instruction to record

20   a broadcast program and a send instruction to send a recorded broadcast program each transmitted from an external source together with a requester ID; and a recording unit operable to record a broadcast program in response to a received record instruction, the integrated circuit comprising:

25   an ID management module operable to manage specific requester IDs as belonging to a group;

        a recorded-data management module operable to manage a recorded broadcast program that is recorded in response to a record

instruction received by the receiving unit, the recorded broadcast being managed in association with a requester ID that is received with the record instruction; and

a shared-data management module operable to send, in response to a send instruction, a recorded broadcast program to a terminal from which the send instruction is received, when (i) a requester ID received with the send instruction is managed by the ID management module as belonging to a group and (ii) the recorded broadcast program to be sent is associated by the recorded-data management module with a requester ID belonging to the group.